

permanent financing in the amount of \$225,000. On February 10, 1976, a contract was signed with Charles Craig, project architect, to design and provide a set of working drawings. Invitations to Bid were tendered and proposals received from various contractors were tabulated and groundbreaking ceremonies for the new building were timed to coincide with the celebration of the Church's 83rd Anniversary. One year later, in May 1977, the Educational Building was dedicated. This would be the first of several major improvements to the physical property completed during the Johnson's years. Dr. Johnson is an administrator with great spirit; an historian who is cognizant of the importance of a people's heritage; a businessman with a vision. He is a theologian and a teacher, who strives daily to build an even stronger congregation at Farish Street Baptist Church—a congregation committed to serve this community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Farish Street Baptist Church.

HONORING RUBEN ARGUELLES

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ruben Arguelles to express my deep appreciation for all that he has done for south Texas students.

For the last 23 years, Mr. Arguelles has dedicated himself to educating young people. He spent six years in the classroom as a teacher and 17 years as an administrator leading students, teachers, and staff. His commitment to the Rio Grande Valley is reflected in his service across several independent school districts (ISD)—Weslaco ISD, Progreso ISD, Mercedes ISD, and Santa Rosa ISD.

In every position he has held, Mr. Arguelles demonstrated a tireless focus on ensuring that children have access to the best possible education to prepare them for the future. His dedication also extended to providing a supportive school environment, improving the community, and bettering the lives of South Texas families.

In his last two years at Santa Rosa ISD, Mr. Arguelles faced a great personal challenge. Although he was diagnosed with cancer, Mr. Arguelles continued to serve as principal even as he underwent grueling treatment. Even in the most difficult of times, Mr. Arguelles remained focused on his mission as an educator.

On behalf of all those whose lives he touched, I rise to recognize the exemplary service of Ruben Arguelles. His dedication, even when faced with illness, is an inspiration to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY AND NATIONAL SERVICE OF AUSTIN J. BURKE, PRESIDENT OF THE GREATER SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career-long community and national service of Austin Burke, who is retiring this year as President of the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce.

Scranton, Pennsylvania in my district has been through a lot of changes since Austin Burke took the reins at the Chamber back in 1981. Mr. Burke helped lead the effort to transform Scranton's former industrial economy into a new economy that is better positioned to sustain jobs and growth throughout the 21st Century.

Reclaiming and re-using thousands of acres of leftover mining land has been a major accomplishment of the Chamber under Austin's leadership. Putting that land into new business use has created thousands of jobs and fueled economic growth in greater Scranton. Mr. Burke also worked closely with federal and local officials to bring the Steamtown National Historic Site to downtown Scranton. This was a key step toward improving the city's image and bringing in tourists. If we can bring back passenger rail service for both tourists and commuters, the connection between Scranton's past and future will be even more complete.

Austin Burke's counsel and ideas have been valued in both the Pennsylvania governor's office and the White House in Washington. He was a leader at the national level through his groundbreaking successes here in Scranton and his involvement with the U.S. Chamber on its nationwide initiatives.

Austin served in the Air Force in his earlier years, and he has always brought a strong sense of commitment, loyalty and professionalism to his work at the Chamber. He is an easy guy to look up to. Everyone in Scranton is indebted to Austin Burke for his many years of community development work, and I wish him and his family the very best for his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THERESA JEPSEN

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mesa Community College student Theresa Jepsen, recipient of a 2013 Cherokee A Nurse I Am Scholarship. Each recipient receives \$2000 toward defraying the cost of their nursing education.

Theresa was chosen for the scholarship on the basis of an essay she wrote in response to the documentary, A Nurse I Am. She was asked to consider aspects of cultural sensitivity demonstrated by nurses in the film, as well as to respond to how she would dem-

onstrate such sensitivity herself. Theresa wrote that "the nursing field requires a unique trifecta of emotional intelligence, adaptation, and cultural awareness . . . and it falls to the nurse to discover the client's cultural basis and the values therein in order to serve fully."

I share Theresa's sentiments and applaud her thoughtfulness. Nurses interact intimately with patients, serving them face-to-face, every day. It is of utmost importance that we train nurses who treat patients holistically, caring for them with competence, kindness, and respect. Nurses have the opportunity to positively impact patients' health and thereby overall lives. I congratulate Cherokee Uniforms and Mesa Community College for their support of Theresa and this admirable scholarship program.

Given her accomplishment as well as the support provided by Mesa Community College and the collaborating scholarship foundation, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Theresa Jepsen for her reception of a Cherokee A Nurse I Am Scholarship.

HONORING DIAMOND HAWK GOLF COURSE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Diamond Hawk Golf Course as it is awarded the 2013 Small Business of the Year award by the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce.

Originally a hunting area, construction on the Diamond Hawk Golf Course began in 2004. The name Diamond Hawk reflects the land's history, combining "Diamond," an enduring and precious figure and the "Hawk," after the red-tailed hawks that frequented the hunting area.

Completed in 2006, the Diamond Hawk Golf Course is a par 72, 18-hole golf course. Its state-of-the-art facilities include a driving range, pro shop and an 8,000 square foot clubhouse. Diamond Hawk is widely regarded as one of Western New York's premiere golf courses. In 2007, Buffalo Spree rated the course the Top Public Golf Course in the area.

Throughout its development, one of the course's biggest supporters has been Sam Tadio. Sam's community service efforts are well-known in Cheektowaga. He has held volunteer positions with the Traffic Commission, Narcotics Commission and Police Commission. Reflecting Sam's altruism, the course hosts a variety of high school and junior golf tournaments, as well as charitable events.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the Diamond Hawk Golf Course and the great work of its advocates and employees as it is awarded Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce's 2013 Small Business of the Year Award. Their commitment to their community and guests exemplifies the highest quality of small business in our country.